

# House Study Bill 44 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE \_\_\_\_\_  
BY (PROPOSED COMMITTEE  
ON COMMERCE BILL BY  
CHAIRPERSON COWNIE)

## A BILL FOR

1 An Act providing for immunity from civil liability for  
2 registered architects and professional engineers providing  
3 disaster emergency assistance under specified circumstances.  
4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1     Section 1. NEW SECTION.   **29C.20C Immunity — registered**  
2 **architects and professional engineers.**

3     An architect registered pursuant to chapter 544A or a  
4 professional engineer licensed pursuant to chapter 542B who,  
5 during a disaster emergency as proclaimed by the governor or  
6 a major disaster as declared by the president of the United  
7 States, in good faith and at the request of or with the  
8 approval of a national, state, or local public official, law  
9 enforcement official, public safety official, or building  
10 inspection official believed by the registered architect or  
11 professional engineer to be acting in an official capacity,  
12 voluntarily and without compensation provides architectural,  
13 engineering, structural, electrical, mechanical, or other  
14 design professional services related to the disaster emergency  
15 shall not be liable for civil damages for any acts or omissions  
16 resulting from the services provided, unless such acts or  
17 omissions constitute recklessness or willful and wanton  
18 misconduct. A registered architect or professional engineer  
19 who receives expense reimbursement for the performance of  
20 services described in this section shall not be considered to  
21 have received compensation for such services.

22                                   EXPLANATION

23     This bill confers immunity from civil liability for  
24 registered architects and professional engineers providing  
25 assistance pursuant to a disaster emergency declared by the  
26 governor or a major disaster declared by the president of the  
27 United States pursuant to Code chapter 29C. The bill provides  
28 that when architectural, engineering, structural, electrical,  
29 mechanical, or other design professional services are rendered  
30 in good faith at the request of or with the approval of a  
31 national, state, or local public official, law enforcement  
32 official, public safety official, or building inspection  
33 official believed by the registered architect or professional  
34 engineer to be acting in an official capacity, and are rendered  
35 voluntarily and without compensation, a registered architect

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1 or professional engineer shall not be liable for civil damages  
2 for any acts or omissions resulting from the services provided,  
3 unless such acts or omissions constitute recklessness or  
4 willful and wanton misconduct. The bill provides that receipt  
5 of expense reimbursement for services performed shall not be  
6 regarded as compensation for such services.